

ARMED FORCES INFORMATION DIGEST

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THE PURPOSE of this monthly digest is to furnish to individuals in the Armed Forces such pertinent, up-to-date information on service regulations, tours of duty, special assignment opportunities, school quotas and criteria, reenlistment, promotion, and separation policies, etc., as may be of personal concern to both commissioned and enlisted personnel. This digest will not cover everything that is of interest to all active personnel of the Armed Services, nor will coverage equal that of The Service Journals, magazines, and other informational and regulatory publications which are regularly received by The Adjutant, and are made available to personnel who desire more complete information.

PUBLICATION DATE will be the last working day of each month. Copies will be distributed so as to be available to assigned and attached personnel, at home station and in the field, as rapidly as possible.

SUGGESTIONS will be welcome! If you wish further information on certain subjects and are unable to obtain it from your local Personnel Officer, address inquiries through him to Military Personnel Division at Headquarters, Attention: Adjutant.

OFFICER EFFICIENCY REPORT CHANGES have been announced by both the Army and the Air Force. New Army regulation AR 600-185 and SR 600-185-1, both dated 28 Sep 53, become effective 31 Oct 53. Changes include: (1) a new Efficiency Report form, DA Form 67-3 dated 1 Oct 53 will be used; (2) numerical rating from Sec III A of DA Form 67-3 will not be entered on Officer's Qualification Record, DA Form 66, and those numerical entries previously made on the card are to be removed promptly; (3) any report not forwarded so as to reach The Adjutant General within thirty days after the last date of the period reported must be accompanied by a letter of explanation for the delay. The Army STILL REQUIRES that letter reports be submitted by rating and/or indorsing officials whenever they are members of another service or are civilian employees. Sections VI and VII of SR 600-185-1 contain detailed instructions and definitions of terminology; it is mandatory that these be studied thoroughly by rating and indorsing officers before they render a report.

AFR 36-10 dated 18 Aug 53 makes a number of changes in the preparation on USAF Officer Effectiveness Reports. These include: (1) all effectiveness reports will be rendered on AF Form 77, dated 15 Nov 53, by both rating and indorsing officials, whether they are members of the USAF, or another armed service, or a civilian employee; (2) no report ("abbreviated" or otherwise) will be rendered when the period of observation has been less than sixty (60) days; (3) Effectiveness Report, AF Form 77, has been redesigned to increase space where necessary and provide specific captions for required entries; (4) in addition to current requirements, reports will now also be submitted when an officer changes principal duty assignment even though there is no change in the reporting official; (5) dates on which annual reports are to be submitted have been realigned; (6) officers will be reported upon in the grade in which serving rather than in permanent grade.

INFORMATION ON OVERSEAS AREAS is contained in AF Letters of the 34-series, which deal with basic living conditions, type and availability of quarters, housekeeping equipment and supplies, rate of currency exchange, transportation and other facilities, etc. To date, the following have been published: 34-100 Japan, -101 Philippines, -102 France, -103 Dependent Travel Procedures, -104 Great Britain, -105 Germany, -106 Okinawa, -107 French Morocco, -108 Alaska, -109 Bermuda, -110 Greenland, Labrador, Newfoundland, -111 Panama, Puerto Rico, -112 Guam, -113 Hawaii, Johnston, and Kwajalein, -114 Tripoli, and -115 Azores. Similar letters in the 34-series, for additional areas, are in process.

AFR 36-83, Indefinite Term Appointment as a Reserve Officer in the Air Force, 6 Oct 53, provides further reappointment opportunity to those Air Force Reserve officers who previously declined an indefinite term appointment and whose 5-year appointments expire subsequent to 1 Apr 53.

ARMY RESERVE COMPONENT IDENTIFICATION will be shown as USAR when it is necessary to identify an individual's basic component in correspondence, orders, records, and forms, according to SR 140-5-4 dated 30 Sep 53. The terms "Reserve", "Res", "ORC", "A Res", or "ERC" will be discontinued. Examples to be followed now: "Capt, Inf, USAR"; "Brigadier General, USAR"; "WOJG, USAR"; "John J. Roe, ER 00 000 000, Sgt, USAR". The above does not apply, however, to official signature block of USAR personnel on active duty, which will continue to be shown as specified in AR 340-20.

FURNITURE FOR GOVERNMENT QUARTERS is the subject of letter AFMSS-SS-1 dated 26 Aug 53, which contains information on the over-all plans to implement a new Air Force policy of providing furniture for family quarters in Continental US and overseas areas. Under this program a limit of 2,000 pounds will be set for furniture (excluding "hold" baggage) which can be transported overseas at government expense by family groups who will occupy these quarters.

MARRIAGE IN OVERSEAS COMMANDS, AR 600-240 (NAVPERS 15858/AFR 34-12/ MarCor P-7) dated 14 Oct 53 covers certain policies and procedures for admission to the U.S. of alien spouses and children to insure compliance with Public Law 414, 82d Congress (Immigration and Nationality Act). These regulations supersede SR 600-240-5/AFR 34-12, dated 11 Feb 49, and should be studied carefully by anyone contemplating marriage to an alien and/or adoption of alien children.

LEAVES AND PASSES are now governed by AR 600-115, SR 600-115-1, and SR 600-115-10, all dated 24 Sep 53, which supersede old AR 600-115 dated 25 Aug 47. The basic changes include decentralization of authority to grant leaves and passes, and the use of one new form DA Form 31, "Request and Authority for Absence", designed for use in requesting and granting leaves and special passes, including such absences granted to patients at Army medical facilities. The new Form 31 replaces all the following forms, which have been declared obsolete: WD AGO Forms 31, 8-170, 8-227, and 8-228, and DD Form 460. For details, see Cir 87, DA, 23 Sep 53. Regular passes will be granted in accordance with SR 600-115-10, and issued on DD Form 345, "Armed Forces Liberty Pass."

EARLY SEPARATION OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL TO ENTER SCHOOLS OR ACCEPT EMPLOYMENT OF A CYCLIC NATURE is outlined in Sec II, Cir 94, Dep't of Army, 6 Oct 53. It provides for early separation of enlisted personnel for such purpose; who have not more than three (3) months remaining in their required period of service, but does not apply to inducted personnel unless they have completed twenty-one (21) months of active duty.

THE UNIFORMED SERVICES CONTINGENCY OPTION ACT OF 1953 is published in Bulletin 13, DA, 26 Aug 53 and Air Force Bulletin 16, DA, 24 Aug 53. In brief, it provides a plan whereby an officer or enlisted man may elect to receive a reduced amount of any retired pay which may be awarded him as the result of service in the uniformed services (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Coast & Geodetic Survey, and Public Health Service), in order to provide one or more annuities payable after his death in a retired status to his widow or child (ren). The service member may elect one or more of several types of annuities, in such amount, expressed as a percentage of the reduced amount of his retired pay as he may specify (one-half, one-quarter, or one-eighth), to be payable to or on behalf of his beneficiary in monthly installments after his death. The table to be used in computing deductions in retired or retirement pay to provide these annuities shall be that recommended by a Board of Actuaries convened by the President. The annuities paid shall be in addition to any pensions or other payments to which the beneficiaries are entitled under other provisions of law and shall not be considered income under any law administered by the V.A. The effective date of this Act is 1 Nov 53. An active member of the uniformed service of who has completed 18 years of service, and personnel already drawing retirement pay may make this election, to receive reduced pay in order to provide annuities for his beneficiaries, within 180 days after the effective date of the Act. The election can be made at time of retirement in the case of a member awarded retired pay for disability prior to completion of 18 years service, or in the case of a person who is a former member on the effective date of this Act and is thereafter awarded retired pay. Active members may make this election prior to the completion of 18 years of service creditable in the computation of active-duty pay in the service of which he is a member. The Services have not

yet worked out specific procedures to implement this Act. When further details are available they will be announced in this bulletin and then you may see your personnel officer if you wish to take advantage of the plan.

VOLUNTEERS FOR TRAINING AND ASSIGNMENT IN ATOMIC WEAPONS SUPPORT UNITS is the subject of Dep't of Army Letter AGTP-P 220.63 dated 8 Sep 53, which prescribes criteria and procedures for selection of qualified enlisted men, and courses of study open to volunteers under this program. Interested personnel may submit letters of application, with Personal History Statement (DD Form 398) inclosed, through channels to The Adjutant General, Dep't of Army, Washington 25, D.C., Attention: AGPA-NS.

INTERESTING ASSIGNMENTS FOR QUALIFIED AIRMEN. Two recent Air Force letters outline policies, procedures, and criteria for USAF enlisted men who desire to volunteer for such duty: Applications for Air Attache Duty, AFR 39-42, and Application for Assignment to Air Force Intelligence Activities, AFR 39-57, both dated 14 Sep 53.

APPOINTMENT OF CADETS TO US COAST GUARD ACADEMY, Cir 93, DA, 5 Oct 53, may be of interest to Army enlisted personnel who will not attain 22d birthday before 1 Jul 54. Appointments of Regular Army enlisted men to US MILITARY ACADEMY at West Point are covered in SR 350-90-2 dated 9 Apr 52.

ARMED FORCES INFORMATION SCHOOL Schedule of Courses for the calendar year 1954 is announced in Cir 88 (AF Letter 53-3/Navy Notice 1500), Dept's of the Army, The Navy, and The Air Force, 24 Sep 53. It lists opening and closing dates for the 8-weeks Public Information Officer Course to be given five times during the year, and the 6-weeks I & E Officer, Public Information Enlisted, and I & E Enlisted courses, given seven times during the year. Requirements for these courses are given in SR 350-185-1 (AFR 53-5/OPNAV Instruction 1500.6).

UNQUALIFIED RESIGNATIONS FROM THE SERVICE of Regular Army and USAR officers and warrant officers will now be accepted by the Department of the Army if individual submitting resignation meets the requirements specified in Cir 84, Dept of Army, 18 Sep 53.

AIR FORCE UNIFORMS. The following paragraphs are quoted from "TIG Brief" of 23 Sep 53: (1) "Reports received in Headquarters USAF indicate that some officers are not complying with provisions of para 34c, AFR 35-14B, particularly when on TDY in foreign countries. If the uniform is worn at off-base public places after normal duty hours the coat is required . . ." (2) " . . . fear has been expressed of an early cut-off date on the wear of the blue shade 120 poplin shirt. No cut-off date is anticipated by Headquarters USAF, since it is planned to allow personnel to wear these shirts until they are unservicable."

TEMPORARY PROMOTION OF WARRANT OFFICERS is the subject of Sec III, Cir 94, Dep't of Army, 6 Oct 53. DA selection boards will be convened in the near future to consider WO's for temporary promotion to following pay grades, of date of rank indicated or earlier: To W-4, 28 Nov 51; to W-3, 14 Dec 51; to W-2, 15 Sep 51. WO's selected will be placed on recommended lists in order of seniority in grade in which serving, and promotions will be effected, as vacancies permit, in the order listed. Lists of those WO's eligible for consideration are published in Cir 104, DA, 19 Oct 53.

TEMPORARY PROMOTION OF ARMY OFFICERS on active duty will be considered by selection boards convened at Dept of Army in Oct 53. Zones of consideration are announced in Sec I, Cir 91, DA, 30 Sep 53, as follows: (1) To Captain (minimum months in grade of 1st Lt shown in parentheses): MC (19), VC (24), WMSC and WAC (30), Army, JAGC, Chap, DC, and MSC (36), and ANC (40); (2) To Major (min mos in grade of Capt): Army, JAGC, MC DC and VC (48), WAC (60), MSC (78), Chap (84), and ANC (136); To Lt Col (min mos in grade of Maj): Army, JAGC, MC and DC (39), Chap and MSC (48), and VC (60). Officers selected will be placed on recommended lists in order of seniority in grade in which serving, and future promotions effected in that order, as vacancies permit. Lists of those eligible for consideration, according to DA records, are published in Cir 98, and 99, DA, 15 Oct 53, and Cir 103, DA, 19 Oct 53. NO provision has been made for a "five percent zone" (outstanding officers who lack sufficient time in grade).

USAF OFFICER TEMPORARY PROMOTION PROGRAM for Fiscal Year 1954 is outlined in USAF Message AFPMP-4A, ALMAJCOM 891/53 dated 6 Oct 53. Only those Lt Cols, Majs, Cpts, including Medical Service officers and Chaplains, who have been serving continuously on AD in such grade since 1 Jul 52, and 1st Lts excluding Medical, Dental, and Veterinary, who have been serving continuously on AD in such grade since 1 Jan 53, are eligible for consideration under the various criteria announced in the letter. Major commanders will report to Director of Military Personnel, Hq, USAF, not later than 9 Nov 53, the number of officers eligible for promotion, and will then be furnished promotion quotas on 16 Nov 53, after which they will convene selection boards at an early date for selection for Lt Cols, Majs and Cpts. Selection for Cols will remain centralized in Hq, USAF. Those selected will be placed on recommended lists and promoted in equal monthly increments beginning 15 Feb 54 or as soon as possible thereafter. Air Force officers detailed to this organization will be considered by the Hq, USAF Selection Board.

PERMANENT PROMOTIONS OF REGULAR AF OFFICERS to Lt Col and Maj will be considered by a selection board to be convened in Washington in Nov 53. Message AFPMP-4A, ALMAJCOM 877/53 dated 29 Sep 53, lists the last names in the zones of consideration for selection in Air Force, Medical, Dental, Veterinary, Medical Service, Chaplain, Nurse, and WMS lists.

OFF DUTY EDUCATION OF USAF OFFICERS has been changed by Sec 641, Public Law 179. A recent air staff message briefs the major points: Tuition assistance is not authorized for officers above 1st Lt taking off-duty classes offered by civilian schools (however, full-time civilian instruction and final semester TDY programs are not affected); officers in grade of Capt or above are still eligible to take correspondence courses offered by the Armed Services, including USAFI courses, to receive educational advice and testing services, and to participate in group study classes provided they enroll in USAFI at the same time.

AIR FORCE INTERIM WARRANT OFFICER POLICIES. Pending enactment of proposed WO legislation, commissioned officers who revert to WOJG status, as a result of the recent attrition program, will be concurrently promoted to permanent CWO provided: (1) They have 10 or more years active federal commissioned an/or warrant officer service, and (2) their selection for that grade has been previously announced in GO's or Hq, USAF.

"WATCH FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF THIS DIGEST"

Each month it will contain information of concern to YOU.